

The Town Meeting Procedures Committee Report

2018 Annual Town Meeting - April 23, 2018

The Town Meeting Procedures Committee, John L. Worden III, James M. O'Conor, Assistant Moderator and John D. Leone Moderator, met on February 28, 2018, in order to discuss the Articles that directly affect Town Meeting and its procedures. Members Eric Helmuth and Adam Auster were unable to attend. We report as follows:

ARTICLE 6: BYLAW AMENDMENT/CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

To see if the Town will vote to amend TITLE II, Article 3 by changing the number of registered voters on the Capital Planning Committee from four registered voters of the Town appointed by the Moderator to between four and six registered voters of the Town appointed by the Moderator; to specify the length of their terms as well as the manner of such appointments and reappointments; or take any action related thereto.

It was the consensus of the Committee that this proposed Bylaw amendment is in the best interest of the Town and is was endorsed by a unanimous vote in favor of the recommended Vote.

The Committee recommends that the Recommended Vote of the Board of Selectmen be voted upon favorably

ARTICLE 7: BYLAW AMENDMENT/TOWN MEETING WARRANT DELIVERY

To see if the Town will vote to amend TITLE I, Article 2 by changing the manner of delivery of the Warrant to every dwelling house in Town and to the Town Meeting Representatives; or take any action related thereto.

The town annual ensures that ha copy of the warrant is delivered to each household in Town. This is currently done be an insertion into the Arlington Advocate which is then mailed to every household. The question arose if this was the most efficient use of town resources and the best practice for fairly warning the citizens of the Warrant's contents. Several options were discussed, however, the TMPC believed that the issue requires further study. After consultation with the Chair of Vision 2020 it was determined that the question should be referred to the Vision 2020 Governance Committee to study and report back to the Town with recommendations.

The Committee recommends that the Motion as follows be voted upon favorably.

Arlington Town Meeting – Motion

ARTICLE NO. 7

Dated: April 23, 2018

VOTED:

That the Town hereby refers the question to the Vision 2020 Committee Governance Committee to study and to report back to and make recommendations to future Town Meetings for Bylaws Amendments allowing an amendments to TITLE 1, Article 2 by changing the manner of delivery of the Warrant to every dwelling house in Town and to the Town Meeting Representatives.

Signed:

James M. O'Conor, Precinct 19,

The Town Meeting Procedures Committee:

John L. Worden III, James M. O'Conor, Assistant Moderator,
Eric Helmuth, Adam Auster and
John D. Leone Moderator

Date Voted: _____

Action Taken: _____

ARTICLE 16 BYLAW AMENDMENT/TIME OF TOWN MEETING SESSIONS

To see if the Town will vote to amend Title I, Section 1, to change the time of Town Meeting from 8:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.; or take any action related thereto.

The TMPC met with the proponent of this Article and discussed the merits and drawback. It was the opinion of the TMPC that the Town Meeting has entertained the question of changing the starting time at least three time in recent years and each time determined to keep the starting time at 8:00 p.m.. Some of the reasons being that it would be very difficult for members who do not work in Arlington to arrive home, have dinner, visit with their family and then arrive at Town Hall in a timely fashion, also, on many evening the Board of Selectmen, the Finance Committee, the capital Planning Committee and the A.R. B meet prior to the start of the meeting. An earlier start time would greatly inconvenience these members and committee persons.

The Committee recommends a Vote of NO ACTION on Article 16